

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Application No. 10/617,128

Applicant: KANNO et al.

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Examiner: Gregory E. Webb

Docket No.: 402696

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop RCE  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated June 2, 2006, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a), the undersigned attorney, on behalf of applicant(s), hereby petitions for a three-month extension of time to and including December 4, 2006, to file a response to the Office Action of June 2, 2006, which carried an original response date of September 2, 2006.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.